

Patent
674537-2001**REMARKS**

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are requested in view of the a remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance.

I. STATUS OF CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 66, 67, 69-73, 75-83 and 103-105 are pending in this application. Claims 66, 67, 69-73, 75-83, 104 and 105 are amended.

The Examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 103-105 are allowed. As such, claim 103 has been retained in its allowed form and all other pending claims have been amended to depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 103. The remaining claim amendments address formalities. Applicants retain the right to file continuing applications directed to additional subject matter.

No new matter is added and no new issues for consideration are raised by these amendments.

It is submitted that the claims, herewith and as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art and that these claims are and were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. The amendments of and additions to the claims, as presented herein, are not made for purposes of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§§§ 101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these amendments and additions are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled. Furthermore, it is explicitly stated that the herewith amendments should not give rise to any estoppel, as the herewith amendments are not narrowing amendments.

II. THE REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, 1ST PARAGRAPH, IS OVERCOME

Claims 65-68, 72-83, 90, 91 and 102 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as allegedly lacking adequate written description. While Applicants disagree with the assertions made in the rejection, in an effort to advance prosecution, all claims have been amended to depend from allowed claim 103, thereby obviating this rejection. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under the first paragraph of Section 112 are requested.

Patent
674537-2001**CONCLUSION**

Applicant believes that the application is in condition for allowance, and favorable reconsideration of the application and prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's representative if there are issues that could be resolved telephonically, leading to allowance of the application.

Alternatively, consideration and entry of this paper is requested, as it places this application into better condition for purposes of appeal.

Respectfully submitted,

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